



New Durham Board of Selectmen Budget Meeting
Fire Department Community Room
Tuesday, November 20, 2012

Members Present: Chairman Bickford, Selectman Jarvis, Selectman Kratovil

Also Present: Town Administrator Jeremy Bourgeois, Jim Ladd- Wolfeboro TV, Rudy Rosiello- Budget Committee Member, Dave Stuart- Fire Department, Peter Varney- Fire Chief, Carole Ingham- Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Chairman Bickford called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

Fire Department #4220

Chief Peter Varney joined the Board to present his budget. Fire Prevention Program line remains the same, as well as Deputy Wages. Chief told the Board that the Administrative Responsibilities is used for any officer that assists in administrative duties and inspections. The telephone line has been reduced, even with an additional cell phone for the ambulance. Chairman Bickford asked the Chief to clarify the specifics of each line, i.e. - subscriptions, hourly rate and hours of administrative responsibilities and clerical. Chief explained how many residents are still calling for medical attention but many are not being transported. He believes this may be due to the economy, with people choosing to drive themselves to the hospital or choosing not to go altogether. Chief Varney asked for an increase in salary due to the department being so stretched this year, with all the fire and medical calls. Mr. Varney told the Board that they are now required to perform two inspections a year at the school due to state law. The inspections cover the school, camps and any commercial properties in New Durham.

Selectman Kratovil asked about negotiations with Ossipee Valley Association for dispatch. He stated that the department is waiting due to a lot of towns looking to switch right now and an ongoing battle between associations at this point.

Chief Varney stated that the equipment maintenance line is running low and will be close. The department had to order some parts for the new truck that he's hoping will be charged after the new year.

Chief Varney told the Board that there are some new drugs available for EMTs to use that the department is purchasing.

The overall department budget is a bit over \$6,000 less than last year's budget.

Forestry #4290-40

Dave Stuart joined the Board at 10:40 A.M. He told the Board that the fire suppression line also includes a couple hours a week at the fire department for burn permits and such. Mr. Stuart notified the Board that the state is trying a pilot program of online burning permits. He stated that he is against this effort, since it makes it more difficult for them to monitor who is burning. The equipment maintenance line is being reduced again, being that most repairs are done in house with the town mechanic.

Mr. Stuart increased the protective clothing line from \$250 to \$2,300. He stated that a lot of their equipment has reached its lifespan and is in need of replacement. The department will be reimbursed some money from the VA grant. Chairman Bickford asked Mr. Stuart to provide a list of the equipment that will need to be purchased.

Election & Registration #4140

Ms. Ingham joined the Board at 11:15 A.M. Ms. Ingham asked for an increase in deputy overtime wages in case of a medical leave. She requested an increase for printing for new envelopes for the Town Clerk's office, as they go through many with their work. The office supplies line was increased due to the price of toner being so high. The software license price had a small increase. The postage line was increased and has traditionally always been spent in full. The election lines are mostly all decreased due to less elections being held in 2013. The election booth line is at \$200 to repair some shelves in the booths. Ms. Ingham brought up the idea of a drop box to the Board again, allowing residents to make drop offs during hours that town hall is closed. Ms. Ingham talked about the possibility of outsourcing the tax bills, like it was discussed before. She explained that the printing isn't an issue but the Board may look at the hours of labor for stuffing envelopes.

Selectman Jarvis motions to approve budget #4140- Election & Registration in the amount of \$70,380. Chairman Bickford seconded, roll call vote: 3-0.

Selectman Jarvis motions to approve budget #4150-Financial Administration in the amount of \$80,011. Selectman Kratovil seconded, roll call vote: 3-0.

The Board spoke about the street lights. Chairman Bickford has a map of the street lights in Town. He stated that more studying has to be done in regards to which ones don't need to be in service or not.

**Selectman Jarvis motions to approve budget #4316- Street Lights in the amount of \$5,100.
Selectman Kratovil seconded, roll call vote: 3-0.**

The Board chose to put off the TAN #4723 budget to gain more information.

Selectman Jarvis recommended the Land Use Administrative Assistant position be moved to the Executive Department budget. This could be a good time seeing as the Town is about to post the upcoming opening. Chairman Bickford said he isn't ready to make a decision on this and would like to consult with the board chairs.

Selectman Jarvis motions to adjourn at 12:05. Second by Chairman Bickford, roll call vote: 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Bourgeois